

# MET

cold into a solid body such as it was before, which is malleable under the hammer, and is of a bright, glossy, and glittering substance where newly cut or broken. The metals are six in number: 1. gold; 2. silver; 3. copper; 4. tin; 5. iron; and, 6. lead; of which gold is the heaviest, lead the second in weight, then silver, then copper, and iron is the lightest except tin: some have added mercury or quicksilver to the number of metals; but as it wants malleability, the criterion of metals, it is more properly ranked among the semi metals.

Metallists use a kind of terrace in their vessels for fining metals, that the melted metal run not out. Moxon.  
2. Courage; spirit. In this sense it is more frequently written mettle. See METTLE.

Being glad to find their companions had so much metal, after a long debate the major part carried it. Clarendon.  
3. Upon this signification the following ambiguity is founded.

Both kinds of metal he prepar'd,  
Either to give blows or to ward;  
Courage and steel both of great force,  
Prepar'd for better or for worse. Hudibras, p. i.

METALLESIS. *n. f.* [μετάλλωσις.] A continuation of a trope in one word through a succession of significations. Bailey.

METALLICAL. *adj.* [from metallum, Lat. metallique, French.]

METALLICK. *adj.* Partaking of metal; containing metal; consisting of metal.

The ancients observing in that material a kind of metallal nature, or fusibility, seem to have resolved it to nobler use; an art now utterly lost. Watton's Architecture.

The lofty lines abound with endless store  
Of mineral treasure, and metallick ore. Blackmore.

METALLIFEROUS. *adj.* [metallum and fero, Latin.] Producing metals. Dict.

METALLINE. *adj.* [from metal.]

1. Impregnated with metal.

Metalline waters have virtual cold in them; put therefore wood or clay into smith's water, and try whether it will not harden. Bacon's Nat. Hist. N<sup>o</sup>. 84.

2. Consisting of metal.

Though the quicksilver were brought to a very close and lovely metalline cylinder, not interrupted by interperfed bubbles, yet having caused the air to be again drawn out of the receiver, several little bubbles disclosed themselves. Boyle.

METALLIST. *n. f.* [from metal; metalliste, Fr.] A worker in metals; or skilled in metals.

Metallists use a kind of terrace in their vessels for fining metals, that the melted metal run not out; it is made of quick lime and ox blood. Moxon's Mech. Exercitios.

METALLOGRAPHY. *n. f.* [metallum and γράφω.] An account or description of metals. Dict.

METALLURGIST. *n. f.* [metallum and ἔργον.] A worker in metals.

METALLURGY. *n. f.* [metallum and ἔργον.] The art of working metals, or separating them from their ore.

TO METAMORPHOSE. *v. a.* [metamorphose, Fr. μεταμορφώω.] To change the form or shape of any thing.

Thou, Julia, thou hast metamorphos'd me;  
Made me neglect my studies, lose my time. Shakespeare.

They became degenerate and metamorphos'd like Nebuchadnezzar, who, though he had the face of a man, had the heart of a beast. Davies on Ireland.

The impossibility to conceive so great a prince and favourite so suddenly metamorphos'd into travellers, with no greater train, was enough to make any man unbelieve his five senses. Watton's Buckingham.

From such rude principles our form began;  
And earth was metamorphos'd into man. Dryden's Ovid.

METAMORPHOSIS. *n. f.* [metamorphose, Fr. μεταμορφώσις.]

1. Transformation; change of shape.

His whole oration stood upon a short narration, what was the cause of this metamorphosis. Sidney.

Obscene talk is grown so common, that one would think we were fallen into an age of metamorphosis, and that the brutes did not only poetically but really speak. Gov. Tongue.

The fifteenth book is the master-piece of the whole metamorphoses. Dryden.

What! my noble colonel in metamorphosis! On what occasion are you transformed? Dryden's Spanish Fryar.

There are probable machines in epick poems, where the gods are no less actors than the men; but the less credible sort, such as metamorphoses, are far more rare. Pope's Odyssey.

2. It is applied, by Harvey, to the changes an animal undergoes, both in its formation and growth; and by several of the various shapes some insects in particular pass through, as the silk-worm, and the like. Quincy.

METAPHOR. *n. f.* [metaphore, Fr. μέταφορα.] The application of a word to an use to which, in its original import, it cannot be put: as, he brides his anger; he deadens the found; the spring awakes the flowers. A metaphor is a simile comprized in a word; the spring putting in action the powers of vegetation, which were torpid in the winter, as the powers of a sleeping animal are excited by awaking him.

The work of tragedy is on the passions, and in a dialogue; both of them abhor strong metaphors, in which the epocæa delights. Dryden's Ded. to Virgil's Æneis.

METAPHORICAL. *adj.* [metaphorique, Fr. from metaphor.] METAPHORICK. *adj.* Not literal; not according to the primitive meaning of the word; figurative.

The words which were do continue; the only difference is, that whereas before they had a literal, they now have a metaphorical use. Hooker.

METAPHRA'SE. *n. f.* [μετάφρασις.] A mere verbal translation from one language into another.

This translation is not so loose as paraphrase, nor so close as metaphor.

METAPHRA'ST. *n. f.* [metaphrastes, Fr. μετάφραστής.] A literal translator; one who translates word for word from one language into another.

METAPHYSICAL. *adj.*

1. Veried in metaphysics; relating to metaphysics.

2. In Shakespeare it means supernatural or preternatural.

He thee higher,  
To chaffice with the valour of my tongue  
All that impedes thee from the golden round,  
Which fate, and metaphysical aid, doth seem  
To have crown'd thee withal. Shakespeare. Macbeth.

METAPHYSICK. *n. f.* [metaphysique, Fr. μέταφυσική.] On-

METAPHYSICKS. *s.* tology; the doctrine of the general af-

fections of substances existing.

The mathematicks and the metaphysicks,

Fall to them as you find your stomach serves you. Shakspeare.

Call her the metaphysicks of her sex,

And say the tortures wits, as quartsans vex

Physicians. Cleland.

If fight be caused by intromission, or receiving in, the form

of contrary species should be received confusedly together,

which how absurd it is, Aristotle shews in his metaphysicks.

Peacocks on Drawing.

See physick beg the Stagyrite's defence!

See metaphysick call for aid on sense! Pope's Dunciad.

The topics of ontology or metaphysick, are cause, effect,

action, passion, identity, opposition, subject, adjunct, and

sign. Watts's Logick.

METAPHYSIS. *n. f.* [μετάφυσική.] Transformation; metamor-

phosis. Dict.

METAPLASM. *n. f.* [μεταπλασμός.] A figure in rhetoric,

wherein words or letters are transposed contrary to their na-

tural order. Dict.

METASTASIS. *n. f.* [μετάστασις.] Translation or removal.

His disease was a dangerous asthma; the cause a metastasis,

or translation of tartarous humours from his joints to his

lungs. Harvey on Consumption.

METATARSAL. *adj.* [from metatarsus.] Belonging to the me-

tatarsus.

The bones of the toes, and part only of the metatarsal

bones, may be carious; in which case cut off only so much

of the foot as is disordered. Sharp's Surgery.

METATARSUS. *n. f.* [μέτα and ταρσός.] The middle of the

foot, which is composed of five small bones connected to

those of the first part of the foot. Dict.

The conjunction is called synarthrosis, as in the joining

the tarsus to the metatarsus. Wiseman's Surgery.

METATHESIS. *n. f.* [μετάθεσις.] A transposition.

TO METE. *v. a.* [metor, Latin.] To measure; to reduce to

measure.

I will divide Shechem, and mete the valley of Succoth. Psal.

To measure any distance by a line, apply some known

measure wherewith to mete it. Holder.

Though you many ways pursue

To find their length, you'll never mete the true,

But thus; take all that space the sun

Mete out, when every daily round is run. Creech.

METEWAND. *n. f.* [mete and wand.] A staff of a cer-

tain length wherewith measures are taken.

A true touchstone, a sure metewand lieth before their eyes.

Asham's Schoolmaster.

Ye shall do no unrighteousness in meteyard, weight, or

measure. Lev. xix. 35.

TO METEMPSYCHO'SE. *v. a.* [from metempsychosis.] To trans-

late from body to body. A word not received.

The souls of usurers after their death, Lucian affirms to

be metempsychos'd, or translated into the bodies of asses, and

there remain certain years for poor men to take their penny-

worth out of their bones. Peacocks on Blazoning.

METEMPSYCHOSIS. *n. f.* [μετεμψύχωσις.] The transmigration

of souls from body to body.

From the opinion of metempsychosis, or transmigration of

the souls of men into the bodies of beasts, most suitable unto

their human condition, after his death Orpheus the musician

became a swan. Brown's Vulgar Errors, b. iii.

METEOR. *n. f.* [meteore, Fr. météore.] Any bodies in the air

or sky that are of a flux and transitory nature. Look'd

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Of his heart's meteors tilting in his face? Shakspeare.

She began to cast with herself from what coast this blazing  
star mad life upon the horizon of Ireland; for there had the  
like meteor strong influence before. Bacon's Henry VII.

These burning fits but meteors be,  
Whole matter in thee soon is spent:  
Thy beauty, and all parts which are in thee, Donne.  
Are an unchangeable firmament.

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And thunders rattled through a sky serene. Dryden's Æn.  
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Hung in the skies, and blazing as I travell'd,  
Till all my fires were spent; and then cast downward  
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O poet, thou hadst been discreeter,  
Hanging the monarch's hat so high,  
If thou hadst dubb'd thy star a meteor,  
Which did but blaze, and rove, and die. Prior.

METEOROLOGICAL. *adj.* [from meteorology.] Relating to the  
doctrine of meteors.

Many others are considerable in meteorological divinity.

Make disquisition whether these unusual lights be new-

come guests, or old inhabitants in heaven, or meteorological  
impressions not transcending the upper region, or whether to  
be ranked among celestial bodies. Howel's Vocal Forest.

METEOROLOGIST. *n. f.* [from meteorology.] A man skilled in  
meteors, or studious of them.

The meteorologist observe, that amongst the four elements  
which are the ingredients of all sublunary creatures, there is  
a notable correspondency. Howel's Vocal Forest.

METEORLOGY. *n. f.* [μετεωρολογία and λόγος.] The doctrine of  
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In animals we deny not a natural meteorology, or innate  
presentation of wind and weather. Brown's Vulgar Errors.

METEOROUS. *adj.* [from meteor.] Having the nature of a me-

teor.

From the o'er hill  
To their fixt station, all in bright array,  
The cherubim descended, on the ground.  
Gliding meteorous, as ev'ning milt,  
Ris'n from a river. Milton's Par. Lost, b. xii.

METER. *n. f.* [from mete.] A measurer: as, a coal-meter, a  
land-meter.

METHEGLIN. *n. f.* [meddyglyn, Welsh, from medd and glyn,  
glutinare ait Minshew, vel a meddygl medicus & llyn potus  
quia potus medicinalis.] Drink made of honey boiled with  
water and fermented.

White handed mistress, one sweet word with thee.  
—Honey, and milk, and sugar, there is three.  
—Nay then two treys; and if you grow so nice,  
Methinks, wort, and malmsey. Shakspeare.

'T' allay the strength and hardness of the wine,  
And with old Bacchus new metheglin join. Dryden.

METHINKS, verb impersonal. [me and thinks.] This is im-

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See MESSAGES, which is more strictly grammatical, though  
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In all ages poets have been had in special reputation, and,  
methinks, not without great cause; for, besides their sweet  
inventions, and most witty lays, they have always used to set  
forth the praises of the good and virtuous. Spenser on Ireland.

If he choose out some expression which does not vitiate the  
sense, I suppose he may stretch his chain to such a latitude;  
but by innovation of thoughts, methinks, he breaks it. Dryd.

There is another circumstance, which, methinks, gives us  
a very high idea of the nature of the soul, in regard to what  
passes in dreams, that innumerable multitude and variety of  
ideas which then arise in her. Addison's Spect. N<sup>o</sup>. 487.

Methinks already I your tears survey. Pope.

METHOD. *n. f.* [methode, Fr. méthode.]

Method, taken in the largest sense, implies the placing of  
several things, or performing several operations in such an  
order as is most convenient to attain some end. Watts.

To see wherein the harm which they feel consisteth, the  
seeds from which it sprang, and the method of curing it, be-

longeth to a skill the study whereof is full of toil, and the  
practice beset with difficulties. Hooker, b. v.

If you will jest with me know my aspect,  
And fashion your demeanour to my looks,  
Or I will beat this method in your conscience. Shakspeare.

It will be in vain to talk to you concerning the method I  
think best to be observed in schools. Locke on Education.

Notwithstanding a faculty be born with us, there are  
several methods for cultivating and improving it, and without  
which it will be very uncertain. Addison's Spect. N<sup>o</sup>. 409.

METHODICAL. *adj.* [methodique, Fr. from method.] Ranged  
or proceeding in due or just order.

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